

ACTION

April 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM: PETER RODMAN
SUBJECT: Letter from Housewife on "Our Nation's
Most Important Problem"

A New York housewife has written to ask you -- for a term paper for school due May 1st -- what you think is "our nation's most important problem." She isn't looking for a detailed answer or a solution; just a statement of the problem.

I have done a simple answer for your signature at Tab A. She would be "most grateful."

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the reply at Tab A.

APR 28 1971

Dear Mrs. Rubin:

Thank you for your letter of April 19, in which you asked my view of what is our nation's most important problem. Please forgive the delay in replying.

My area of principal concern, of course, is foreign policy. I share the President's view that our fundamental problem in this area is to develop a new consensus as a nation on our role and purposes in the world. This is a theme on which the President focused in his February Report to the Congress on Foreign Policy, particularly in the Introduction and Conclusion. I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy.

I hope this is helpful to you.

Best regards,

19/

Henry A. Kissinger

Mrs. Phyllis K. Rubin
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HAK:PWR:jlj 4/28/71